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(54) Herbicide combination.

(iii) The present invention is directed to an improved herbicide, comprising a combination of three individual herbicides, 5-cyano-1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-N-methyl-1H-pyrazole-4-carboxamide; atrazine or cyanazine; and alachlor or metolachlor.

Description

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HERBICIDE COMBINATION

The present invention is directed to an improved herbicide, comprising a combination of three individual herbicides. This combination can be used on any of a number of crops, but is especially suited for use on corn.

Corn is a major crop in the United States, and many herbicides have been developed for use on the crop. However, none is entirely satisfactory. Some present carryover problems, injuring rotation crops planted in subsequent years. Recently there has been concern over the contamination of ground water by certain corn herbicides. Resistance can also become a problem from continued use of the same herbicides. Therefore, there is an ongoing need to develop improved herbicides for this very important crop.

The present combination provides superior control of weeds with no crop injury and no carryover problems, and additionally it minimizes the total amount of herbicide being applied to cropland. It therefore represents an advance over known herbicides in the farmer's arsenal of weed control techniques.

The present improved herbicide comprises a combination of three compounds already known as herbicides.

The first compound is 5-cyano-1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-N-methyl-1H-pyrazole-4-carboxamide. This compound is taught in 4,589,905, which is hereby incorporated by reference. The compound has also been announced at the 1987 meeting of the Weed Science Society of America, meeting February 3-5, 1987, at St. Louis, Missouri, and at the 1987 British Crop Protection Conference, meeting November 17, 1987, at Brighton, England. In these two presentations to the weed science community, it was referred to as EL-177, and it will be identified herein by the same code.

The second compound of the present combinations is one (or both) of atrazine and cyanazine. These compounds are known as herbicides, and are already widely used on corn. See The Pesticide Manual (The British Crop Protection Council, 1983), pages 23 and 140.

The third compound of the present combinations is one (or both) of alachlor or metolachlor. Again, these compounds are known as herbicides, and are already widely used on corn. See The Pesticide Manual, <u>supra</u>, pages 90 and 377.

Like many other herbicide products, the present combinations can be used for selective weed control, or, at higher rates, for nonselective vegetation control. However, the preferred use is for selective weed control in crops such as corn, sorghum, peanuts, soybeans, sugar cane, cotton, and the like. The preferred crop is corn, and the present combinations are preferably applied preemergent or early postemergent.

General use recommendations for the four commercially available compounds, when used individually, are as follows:

atrazine - 2 to 3 lbs./acre

cyanazine - 1.17 to 4.77 lbs./acre

alachlor - 2 to 4 lbs./acre

metolachlor - 2 to 3 lbs./acre

In accordance with the present invention, these individual use rates can be reduced considerably, such as to one-third or one-fourth the individual use rates, while still achieving superior weed control.

Specific use rates for the present combinations will of course vary with the type of soil, the particular compounds used, and the like, as is true of all herbicides. All that is required is that the amounts of the three compounds, in combination, exhibit herbicidal action. However, in general, the following ranges of rates have been found to be satisfactory:

EL-177 - 0.1 to 0.5 lb./acre (0.112 to 0.56 kgs./hectare)

atrazine - 0.5 to 1.5 lbs./acre (0.56 to 1.68 kgs./hectare)

cyanazine - 0.25 to 1.5 lbs./acre (0.28 to 1.68 kgs./hectare)

alachlor - 0.25 to 1.5 lbs./acre (0.28 to 1.68 kgs./hectare)

metolachlor - 0.1 to 1.5 lb./acre (0.112 to 1.68 kgs./hectare)

The present three-way combination can be achieved by tank mixing individually-formulated materials, or by using a "prepack" containing all three components. The advantages of the present invention could also be achieved by applying the three components separately (but approximately simultaneously) in individual passes through the ileid, but this would be highly inefficient. The most preferred technique is a three-way prepack, which allows the farmer to achieve the advantages of the present invention by mixing a single formulation into his spray tank.

Accordingly, another embodiment of the present invention is a formulation comprising each of EL-177, atrazine or cyanazine (or both), and alachlor or metolachlor (or both), with one or more suitable physiologically acceptable carriers. The carriers are selected in accordance with conventional agricultural formulation techniques, and the entire panoply of agricultural formulation techniques is available. Typical carriers include solvents, surfactants, dispersing agents, and the like. 4,589,905, previously referred to, describes not only EL-177, but also techniques for formulating it and other members of the series. It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that the techniques described in 4,589,905, are equally relevant to the present combinations.

The concentration of the active ingredients in accordance with the present invention is not critical, since a larger volume of a dilute formulation can be used, or a lesser volume of a more concentrated formulation. In general, preferred combinations will contain from 0.5 to 12% of EL-177, from 0.15 to 36% of atrazine or

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cyanazine (or both), and from 0.15 to 36% of alachlor or metolachlor (or both). These compositions can be used as such or, in the customary practice, can be diluted for use.

Combinations of the present invention were evaluated in three greenhouse experiments. The first experiment, Table I below, was of the combination of EL-177 with atrazine and alachlor. The second experiment, Table II below, was of the combination of EL-177 with either atrazine or cyanazine and alachlor. The third experiment, Table III below, was of the combination of EL-177 with cyanazine and alachlor. The first experiment utilized three replicates per treatment, the second and third experiments utilized two replicates per treatment. In all other respects, the experiments were conducted identically, as follows.

Greenhouse flats were filled with sterilized greenhouse mineral soil mix and planted with seeds of field corn, pigweed, velvetleaf, foxtail millet, and morningglory. Each compound was applied in a separate formulation. Commercially available formulations of atrazine, cyanazine, and alachlor were used, and an 80% wettable powder formulation of EL-177 was used (the same 80 WP formulation described below for the field tests).

After application of the respective compound(s), the flats were maintained under good greenhouse growing conditions, with 14-hour day length and a temperature range of 68-90° F., with periodic sprinkler irrigation through emergence, and subirrigation thereafter for the duration of the experiment. Ratings were made at 14-19 days after application for the control of weeds and crop injury. In the second experiment, crop root injury was rated only for the highest rate (since the first experiment had established that minimal crop injury occurred at the lower rates), and no crop root injury ratings were made at any rate in the third experiment.

Results are as set forth in the following tables.

H	
TABLE	

Experiment 46587001		-						
			110	ota	. YET YET	URY	MOBNING	A1/16
TREATMENT	KATE LB/A	TOP	ROOT	WEED	LEAF	MILLET	GLORY	CON
	0.095	00	17	77	50 65	30 37	17	43 65
	0.19	00	13	100	95 97	72 82	93 83	06
alachlor	0.25	. 0	0	73	33	66	0	51
	0.38	0	0	78	20	100	0	20
atrazine	0.25	0	0	66	0	0	10	27
	0.38	0	o .	100	27	0	71	51
EL-177 +	0.095 + 0.25	0	0	93	70	66	98	87
u	0.095 + 0.38	0	10	97	73	98	94	90
	0.125 + 0.25	0	0	98	29	100	26	77
	0.125 + 0.38	0	0	96	65	66	43	92
	0.19 + 0.25	0	0	66	65	100	78	98
	0.19 + 0.38	0	က	100	82	100	82	69
	0.25 + 0.25	0	0	100	93	100	93	96
	0.25 + 0.38	0	7	100	86	100	95	86

		TABLE	TABLE I continued	nued				
Experiment 46587001	37001						٠	
			:		% - INJURY	URY		
	RATE	CORN	RN	. PIG	VELVET	FOXTAIL	MORNING	AVE*
TREATMENT	LB/A	TOP	ROOT	WEED	LEAF	MILLET	GLORY	CON
EL-177 +	0.095 + 0.25	-	0	100	89	20	78	72
atrazine	0.095 + 0.38	0	ო	100	93	20	95	84
	0.125 + 0.25	0		100	98	. 70	96	84
	0.125 + 0.38	0	0	100	100	20	66	87
	0.19 + 0.25	0	20	100	66	20	66	87
	0.19 + 0.38	0	27	100	66	80	100	95
	0.25 + 0.25	0	23	100	100	93	96	76
	0.25 + 0.38	0	6 43	100	100	89	100	16
alachlor +	0.25 + 0.25	0	13	100	43	. 100	20	99
atrazine	0.38 + 0.38	9	27	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE I continued

Experiment 46587001

	G AVE*	95		76	100	98	100	100	100
	MORNING	98	90	78	66	96	66	66	00
URY	FOXTAIL	100	001	66	100	100	100	100	001
% - INJURY	VELVET LEAF	60	9,0	95	66	97	66	100	100
•	PIG	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	001
	CORN	7	•	0	ო	17	0	က	5
	TOP	0 0	o	0	0	ო	0	0	<
	RATE <u>LB/A</u>	+ 0.25 +	0.095 + 0.38 + 0.38	0.125 + 0.25 + 0.25	0.125 + 0.38 + 0.38	0.19 + 0.25 + 0.25		0.25 + 0.25 + 0.25	
	TREATHENT	EL-177 +	alachior + atrazine						

Greenhouse mineral soil mix used Average weed control across the four species (pigweed, velvetleaf, foxtail millet, and morningglory) Data is average of three replications Applications top watered through two days after emergence (approx 1" water) then subirrigated as needed 33 (G)

Notes

Experiment 46587002	02	₽I	TABLE II					
		_			% - INJURY	URY		
	RATE	8	CORN	PIG	VELVET	FOXTAIL	MORNING	AVE*
TREATHENT	LB/A	TOP	ROOT	WEED	LEAF	MILLET	GLORY	NOS
EL-177	0.125	0	•	86	76	23	_. ب	55
	0.15	0	25	96	93	30	10	21
alachlor	0.1	0	•	90	25	66	30	61
	0.15	0	ı	89	30	66	0	22
	0.2	o 	0	86	20	66	0	51
atrazine	0.25	0	•	98	20	20	S	41
	0.38	0	20	100	20	20	25	41
cyanazine	0.2	0	45	63	55	s	20	36
EL-177 +	0.125 + 0.1	0	1	100	98	98	43	85
alachlor	0.125 + 0.15	0	1	100	89	66	55	98
	0.125 + 0.2	0	:	100	80	66	30	11
	0.15 + 0.1	0	ı	100	85	66	40	81
	0.15 + 0.15	0	1	100	92	66	35	82
	0.15 + 0.2	0	15	100	88	98	40	82
EL-177 +	0.125 + 0.25	0	ι	100	92	30	65	72
atrazine	0.125 + 0.38	0	ı	100	82	30	70	11
	0.15 + 0.25	0	•	100	66	55	92	98
-	0.15 + 0.38	0	τυ _.	100	100	09	66	06

Experiment 46587002

					CNI - %	IURY		
	RATE	8	CORN	PIG	VELVET FC	FOXTAIL	MORNING	AVE*
TREATMENT	LB/A	TOP	ROOT	WEED	LEAF	MILLET	GLORY	CON
EL-177 +	0.125 + 0.2	0	1	100	100	30	76	82
cyanazıne	0.15 + 0.2	0	18	86	100	07	86	84
alachlor +	0.1 + 0.25	0	ı	66	91	98	25	78
atrazine	+	0	•	100	73	98	42	79
	0.2 + 0.25	0	1	100	20	100	25	69
	0.1 + 0.38	0	1	100	89	84	35	72
	+	0	ı	100	09	86	55	. 87
	0.2 + 0.38	0	0	100	70	100	89	84
alachlor +	0.1 + 0.2	0	1	100	55	66	35	72
cvanazine	0.15 + 0.2	0	2	100	45	96	10	89

TABLE II continued

Experiment 46587002

	AVE∻	CON	90	93	66	96	96	100	96	93	97	86
	MORNING	GLORY	09	73	95	83	87	66	85	73	88	76
URY	FOXTAIL	MILLET	100	100	100	100	100	100	66	66	100	100
% - INJURY	VELVET	LEAF	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	66	100	100
	PIG	WEED	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	NS.	ROOT	•	ı	t	ı	ı	25	- 1		20	S
	CORN	TOP	0	0	0	0	0	o		0	0	0
	RATE	LB/A	0.125 + 0.1 + 0.38	0.125 + 0.15 + 0.38	0.125 + 0.2 + 0.38	0.15 + 0.1 + 0.25	+	0.15 + 0.2 + 0.25	0.15 + 0.1 + 0.38	+	0.15 + 0.2 + 0.38	0.125 + 0.25 + 0.38
		TREATMENT	EL-177 +	alachlor +	atrazine							

		AVE*	66	86		
		MORNING GLORY	96	93		r) then 1 millet,
	JRY	FOXTAIL MILLET	100	100		rox 1" wate eaf, foxtai
	% - INJURY	VELVET LEAF	100	66		gence (app) d, velvetlo
med		PIG	100	100		ter emer; (pigwee
TABLE II continued		ROOT	•	20		days aff
TABLE		TOP		0		ations ugh two used the four
46587002		RATE LB/A	0.125 + 0.1 + 0.2	0.125 + 0.15 + 0.2		 Data is average of two replications Applications top watered through two days after emergence (approx 1" water) then subirrigated as needed Greenhouse mineral soil mix used Average weed control across the four species (pigweed, velvetleaf, foxtail millet, and morningglory) Not evaluated
Experiment 46587002		TREATMENT	FI177 +	alachlor +	cyanazine	Notes (1) (2) (3) **

			TABLE II	II				
Experiment 46587003	દ્ય							
		-			·*	INJURY		
	RATE		CORN	PIG	VELVET	GIANT	MORNING	AVE*
TREATMENT	LB/A	-	(TOP)		LEAF		GLOKY	N O
FI177	60.0		0	80	25	25	0	33
	0.125		0	85	73	10	38	52
	0.25	_	10	100	66	40	78	79
	0.38		10	100	100	70	72	98
alachlor	0.05		0	86	25	93	87	99
	0.1		S	66	25	98	20	89
	0.2		0	100	10	66	0	52
	7.0	-	15	100	25	100	. 09	7.1
onicensor.	0.1		10	95	0	30	07	41
	0.15		10	0	40	10	40	23
	0.2		70	30	10	15	0	14
	7.0		0	40	30	30	40	35
	0.8		0	09	84	25	0	33
EL-177 +	0.09 + 0.1		0	100	88	98	0	72
alachlor	0.125 + 0.1		2	100	73	76	75	98

Experiment 46587003

TABLE III continued

				, %	INJURY		
	RATE	CORN	PIG	VELVET	GIANT	MORNING	AVE*
TREATMENT	LB/A	(TOP)	WEED	LEAF	FOXTAIL	GLORY	CON
EL-177 +	+	0	90	63	0	73	57
cyanazine	0.09 + 0.15	10	66	9	0	52	24
	0.09 + 0.2	0	66	100	15	80	74
	+	10	100	86	10	70	70
	0.125 + 0.15	10	66	86	20	90	77
	0.125 + 0.2	S	100	66	15	15	57
,		c	6	Ġ	ŗ	0	ç
+ //1-73	+ 0.02 +	>	001	y	2	/0	C C
alachlor +	+ 0.1 +	0	100	66	66	73	93
cyanazine	+ 0.05 +	0	100	96	83	70	87
	+ 0.1 +	10	100	95	66	85	95
	0.09 + 0.05 + 0.2	2	100	96	90	93	76
	+	10	100	95	96	45	83
	+ 0.05 +	0	100	94	09	88	98
	+ 0.1 +	10	100	66	97	83	95
	+ 0.05 +	0	100	100	83	6 4	87
	+ 0.1 +	0	100	66	95	58	88
	+ 0.05 +	S	100	100	93	70	91
	0.125 + 0.1 + 0.2	10	100	97	95	30	81
	0.25 + 0.2 + 0.4	18	100	100	100	100	100
	0.38 + 0.4 + 0.8	18	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE III continued

Experiment 46587003

7000	CON	96	e n t
			the .
	GLORY	59 85	ater) tail
			1" v
24	AIL	98 99	prox
% - INJURY	GIANT	0 0	e (ap elvet
- 2	E→ I		gence d, v
	VELVET LEAF	96	emer igwee
			ifter is (p
	PIG	100	lays a
	CORN (TOP)	:	ns two d
	9 EI	Ä	ation ough sed
		38	eplic thre mix v
		0.09 + 0.1 + 0.38 0.125 + 0.1 + 0.38	two r tered ded soil l acr
		0.1	of of op was nees ral
	ପ ଝା	9 + 25 +	erage ns to ed as mine ed co ed co
	RATE LB/A	0.0	is av catio rigat nouse ge we ornin
			Data is average of two replications Applications top watered through two days after emergence (approx 1" water) then subirrigated as needed Greenhouse mineral soil mix used Average weed control across the four species (pigweed, velvetleaf, foxtail millet, and morningglory) Not evaluated
	턴	+	(2) (3) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4
	REATMENT	EL-177 + alachlor + atrazine	lotes (
	TRE	EL-alac	Not

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In addition to these greenhouse tests, combinations of the present invention were also evaluated in field experiments at eighteen locations throughout the corn belt. In these experiments, commercial formulations of atrazine, cyanazine, and alachior were employed. EL-177 was formulated as a 80 WP, with the following composition:

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-	EL-177 (@ 97% purity)	82.47%
	Polyfon H (Sugar-free	3.50%
	sodium-based	
	sulfonates of Kraft lignin	
10	from Westvaco	
	Chemicals Div.)	
	Sellogen HR (sodium	5.00%
	dialkylnaphthalene	5.00%0
	sulfonate from Diamond	
15	Shamrock Chemicals	
	Co.)	4 0004
	Stepanol ME Dry	1.00%
	(sodium lauryl sulfate	
20	from Stepan Co.)	
20	Gum Árabic	0.50%
	Hi-Sil 233 (hydrated	2.50%
	amorphous silicas from	
	Pittsburg Plate Glass	
25	Co. Chemical Division)	
25	Borden Clay (hydrous	5.03%
	aluminum silicates from	
	J.M. Huber Corp.)	
		100.00%
		.50.00 /0

To make this wettable power formulation, the ingredients were mixed and air milled together. Some of this material was granulated in a mini tumbler with a pan, to achieve a dry flowable ("DF") formulation with the same composition. Both formulations were used in carrying out these field experiments.

To achieve a specific treatment, the relevant formulations were tank mixed and applied preemergently with conventional spray equipment. Crop injury and weed control were evaluated, generally twice, at an "early" time (less than about 50 days post application) and at a "late" time (up to 148 days post application).

To evaluate the role of adequate rainfall, the results were summarized, and are reported below, in two separate tables. Table IV presents a summary of the data for those experiments receiving adequate rain immediately after application of the present combinations. Table V presents a summary of the data for those experiments receiving inadequate rain after application of the combination.

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TABLE IV Summary of Experiments Receiving Adequate Rain

TREATMENT	RATE LB/A	AVERAGE E WEED CO EARLY	
EL-177	0.25	68	60
EL-177 + atrazine	0.25 + 1.25	94	92
EL-177 + alachlor	0.25 + 1	88	86
atrazine + alachlor	2 + 2.5	98	97
EL-177 + atrazine + alachlor	0.25 + 1 + 1.25	97	95

Note:

- (1) Percent weed control calculated across 18 experiments that received sufficient rainfall for activation.
- (2) Percent weed control includes 56 observations for early season; and 49 observations for late season. Observations include all weed species found commonly in the various treatment plots at each location.
- (3) Percent weed control is calculated on an average of all weed species.
- (4) In one (out of 18 experiments) experiment, the three-way combination provided weed control less than that provided by the atrazine + alachlor combination.
- (5) Distribution of weed species was as follows: Giant Foxtail = 15 locations; Shattercane = 2 locations; Fall Panicum = 1 location; Seedling Johnson Grass = 1 location; Velvetleaf = 12 locations; Pigweed = 8 locations; Cocklebur = 4 locations; Ivyleaf Morningglory = 4 locations; Lambsquarters = 3 locations; Venice Mallow = 2 locations; Sunflower, Black Nightshade, Ragweed, Jimsonweed, Smartweed, Tall Morningglory, and Buffalowbur = all 1 location each.

TABLE V

Summary of Experiments Receiving Inadequate Rain

5	TREATMENT	RATE LB/A	AVERAGE PERCENT WEED CONTROL (EARLY)
10	EL-177	0.25	30
	EL-177 + atrazine	0.25 + 1.25	59
15	EL-177 + alachlor	0.25 + 1	50
	atrazine + alachlor	2 + 2.5	58
	EL-177 + atrazine +	0.25 + 1 + 1.25	60
20	alachlor		

- (1) Percent weed control calculated across four experiments that received insufficient rainfall for activation.
- 25 (2) Percent weed control includes 12 observations for early season. Observations include all weed species found commonly in the various treatment plots at each location.
- 30 (3) Percent weed control is calculated on an average of all weed species.

Claims

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- 1. A method of obtaining weed control which comprises applying approximately simultaneously to a weed (1) a first substance which is 5-cyano-1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-N-methyl-1H-pyrazole-4-carboxamide, (2) a second substance which is atrazine or cyanazine, and (3) a third substance which is alachlor or metolachior.
 - 2. The method of Claim 1 In which the second substance is atrazine.
 - 3. The method of Claim 1 or 2 in which the third substance is metolachlor.
 - 4. The method of Claim 1 or 2 in which the third substance is alachlor.
- 5. A method of obtaining weed control in a corn field which comprises applying to the field, preemergently, a composition comprising (1) a first component which is 5-cyano-1-(1,1-dimethyle-thyl)-N-methyl-1H-pyrazole-4-carboxamide, (2) a second component which is atrazine or cyanazine, and (3) a third component which is alachlor or metolachlor.
- 6. The method of Claim 5 in which the second component is atrazine and the third component is alachlor.
- 7. The method of Claim 5 in which the application is at the rate of 0.1 to 0.5 lb./acre of the first component, 0.25 to 1.5 lbs./acre of the second component, and 0.1 to 1.5 lbs./acre of the third component.
- 8. A herbicidal composition comprising (1) from 0.5 to 12% of a first component which is 5-cyano-1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-N-methyl-1H-pyrazole-4-carboxamide, (2) from 0.15 to 36% of a second component which is atrazine or cyanazine, and (3) from 0.15 to 36% of a third component which is alachlor or metolachlor.
- 9. The composition of Claim 8 in which the second component is atrazine and the third component is alachior.
- 10. The composition of Claim 8 in which the second component is atrazine and the third component is metolachlor.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Catacas		dication, where appropriate,	Relevant	CLASSIFICATION OF THE	
Category	of resevant pas		to claim	APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)	
D,A	C.R. WORTHING et al manual", 7th edition 3,23,140,377, Briti Council, Croydon, G * "Formulations sec	n, 1983, pages sh Crop Protection B	1-10	A 01 N 43/70 / (A 01 N 43/70 A 01 N 43:56 A 01 N 37:26 A 01 N 37:22)	
D,A	US-A-4 589 905 (J. 1 column 25, line 5 49; column 29, line 1,13-15,19,29,30,32	0 - column 27, line s 6-17; claims	1-10		
A	RESEARCH DISCLOSURE 1980, page 369, abs Havant, Hampshire, mixtures"	, no. 197, September tract no. 19715, GB; "Herbicide	1-10		
A	PROCEEDINGS EUROPEA SOCIETY SYMPOSIUM S CONTROL OF GRASSWEE pages 162-169; R. L "The evaluation of alachlor + atrazine	TATUS, BIOLOGY AND DS IN EUROPE, 1975, OZANOVSKI et al.: glyphosate and	1-10	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (int. Cl.4)	
) •	sorghum halepense L stubbles and corn" * Page 165, lines 1	. pers control on	-	A 01 N	
A	AT-B- 380 623 (CH * Page 1, line 33 - page 3, line 50 - p claims *	page 2, line 16;	1-10		
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		<i>:</i>			
	The present search report has b				
TH	Place of search E HAGUE	Date of completion of the search 14-06-1989	FLI	Examiner ETCHER A.S.	
	CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUME	NTS T: theory or prin	ciple underlying (he invention	
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